

SURVEY ON LIBRARY SERVICES TO  
CHILDREN IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES

This report is authorized by law (20 U.S.C. 1221e-1). While you are not required to respond, your cooperation is needed to make the results of this survey comprehensive, accurate, and timely.

This study is designed to obtain information about individual libraries rather than library systems. Please respond only for services that take place in your individual library BUILDING and the community it serves.

- 1a. Please estimate the number of persons (of all ages) who used your library in a TYPICAL WEEK during fall 1988. (Please use counts such as door counts rather than circulation information) \_\_\_\_\_ persons per week.
- 1b. About what percent of these users were children 14 years old and under (8th graders and below)? \_\_\_\_\_ %
2. About what percent of your library's total circulation is children's materials? \_\_\_\_\_ %
3. What percent of your library's total book budget for the last completed fiscal year was used for children's books? \_\_\_\_\_ %
4. How many hours was your library open to the public during a typical week in fall 1988? hours \_\_\_\_\_ per week.

5a. How many librarians (count persons, not full-time equivalents) who work directly with the public are employed at your library? (Include all paid staff who work as librarians, regardless of training. Do not include librarians whose ONLY job is technical or administrative. Do not include volunteers or support staff such as clerical workers, book shelveers, or cloak attendants). \_\_\_\_\_ (IF ZERO, SKIP TO Q6a)

5b. How many of these librarians have: Master of Library Science (MLS) degree \_\_\_\_\_; AT LEAST a 4-year college degree, but not an MLS \_\_\_\_\_; Other \_\_\_\_\_ (THESE NUMBERS SHOULD SUM TO Q5a)

5c. How many of these librarians have the title "Children's Librarian" or comparable title? \_\_\_\_\_ (IF ZERO, SKIP TO Q6a)

5d. How many of the Children's Librarians have: Master of Library Science (MLS) degree \_\_\_\_\_; AT LEAST a 4-year college degree, but not an MLS \_\_\_\_\_; Other \_\_\_\_\_ (THESE NUMBERS SHOULD SUM TO Q5c)

6a. Is the assistance of a Children's Coordinator/Consultant available to your library? ☐ Yes; ☐ No. (IF NO, SKIP TO Q7)

6b. From what source(s) is the assistance of a Children's Coordinator/Consultant available? (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

- ☐ Local system headquarters; ☐ Regional system headquarters; ☐ State library agencies;  
☐ Other (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

7. How does your library define children? (ANSWER ONLY ONE)

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ years old and under; OR Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ grade and below.

The remainder of this questionnaire is concerned with services to children 14 years old and under. Although your library may define children differently, please respond for all persons 14 years old and under (8th graders and below).

8. Indicate the availability/usage of the services below by children 14 years old and under (8th graders and below) during the last 12 months. Use the following scale: 0 = not available; 1 = no usage or almost no usage; 2 = light usage; 3 = moderate usage; 4 = heavy usage.

- a. Readers' advisory service (help with book selection, reference) \_\_\_\_\_ c. Summer reading programs \_\_\_\_\_  
b. Reading lists/booklists \_\_\_\_\_ d. Story hours \_\_\_\_\_  
e. Study space \_\_\_\_\_

9. For each service below, indicate by checking "yes" or "no" in Section A whether it is available at all for use or circulation at your library.

For each service available at the library, indicate in Section B by checking the appropriate column whether it is: available to all children; available to only some children (e.g., those with parental consent on file, only certain age groups, etc.); or not available to any children.

Resources and services	A. Available at all for use or circulation?		B. Service is available to:		
	Yes	No	All children	Only some children	No children
a. Books in the adult collection					
b. Personal computers					
c. Computer software					
d. Videocassettes/films					
e. Audio recordings					
f. Interlibrary loan services					
g. Foreign language materials					

10. During the last 12 months, about how many times did your library offer group programs (e.g., story hours or booktalks) at the library for:

a. Infants through 2-year-olds: \_\_\_\_\_; b. 3-year-olds through 5-year olds: \_\_\_\_\_; c. School-age children: \_\_\_\_\_

11. During the last 12 months, about how many times did your library offer group programs at the library for parents or other child care-givers on topics related to children? \_\_\_\_\_

12. During the last 12 months, about how many times did your library cooperate with schools and preschools/day care centers enrolling any children 14 years old and under (8th graders and below)? Examples of cooperation are visits to schools for booktalks, class visits to the library for tours or booktalks, and formal scheduled meetings with school staff. Do not count informal consultations with school staff. Count each trip to a school as one visit, regardless of the number of class visits or meetings that trip entailed.

Cooperation with schools: \_\_\_\_\_; Cooperation with preschools/day care centers: \_\_\_\_\_

Person completing this form: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Library: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_